

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CARACA 08322 082225Z

61

ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-03 INR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3894

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 8322

LIMDIS

FOR ARA/NC - MR. DEVINE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, XG, VE, US, YO

SUBJ: PROJECTED FOREIGN TRAVEL OF VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT CARLOS

ADRES PEREZ

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM YUGOSLAV CHARGE DURING CONVERSATION AT OUR RESIDENCE ON JULY 4, PRESIDENT PEREZ IN MY PRESENCE TOLD YUGOSLAV THAT HE IS PLANNING TO TRAVEL TO YUGOSLAVIA--AND IN AN ASIDE TO ME--TO OTHER COUNTRIES AT THE END OF 1976.

IN THE ENSUING CONVERSATION, I RECEIVED THE IMPRESSION THAT THE PROPOSED OCTOBER VISIT TO THE U.S. MAY HAVE SLIPPED. THE PRESIDENT SAID A FINAL DECISION ON HIS TRAVEL PLANS WILL BE MADE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CONFIRMED THAT THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOME SLIPPAGE AND PROMISED TO INFORM ME AS SOON AS A DECISION WAS MADE.

2. CARACAS JULY 7 MORNING PRESS CARRIED AP STORY BY ARY MOLEON FROM WASHINGTON, CITING DEPARTMENT OF STATE SOURCES, TO EFFECT THAT THE PRESIDENTS OF BRAZIL, MEXICO, AND VENEZUELA MAY VISIT THE U.S. BEFORE THE END OF 1976 AND THAT THE USG HAS EXTENDED INVITATIONS TO THE THREE CHIEF EXECUTIVES. STORY CONTINUES THAT VENEZUELAN DIPLOMATS IN WASHINGTON TOLD PRESS THAT NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE REGARDING THE VISIT BY PEREZ

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TO WASHINGTON. ONLY OTHER PRESS COMMENT ON THIS ITEM TO DATE IS

JULY 8 "EL NACIONAL" COLUMN BY J. LOSSADA RONDON WHO COVERS
PRESIDENTIAL PALACE. RONDON CLAIMS THAT PEREZ COULD ACCEPT
PRESIDENT FORD'S INVITATION TO GO TO WASHINGTON IN OCTOBER
DURING THE OCCASION OF A POSSIBLE VISIT TO NEW YORK TO GIVE A
SPEECH AT THE UN.
ASENCIO

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